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THE BARIUM IRON RUTHENIUM OXIDE SYSTEM

S. Kemmler-Sack and A. Ehmann

Translation of "Ueber das System BaFe<sub>1-x</sub>Ru<sub>x</sub>O<sub>3-y</sub>," Journal of Solid State Chemistry, vol. 44, No. 3, 1982, pp. 366-373.

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#### THE BARIUM IRON RUTHENIUM OXIDE SYSTEM

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## Introduction

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Stoichiometric BaFeO, can only be prepared at high oxygen pressures; it crystallizes in the rhombohedral 12-layer type (reaction rate R3m [1, 2]). An isotopic compound with a phase breadth BaFeO 2.75-2.90 was similarly obtained under pressurized oxygen by Zanne and Gleitzer [3]. Compounds with deficient oxygen form at standard pressure: BeFeO3-v. For y < 0.5, perovskiet is produced with cubic, tetragonal, monoclinic, or triclinic deformations, depending on the conditions of formation, along with compounds with hexagonal BaTiO3 structure [4-9]. The latter are formed by heating a stoichiometric mixture of BaCO3 and Fe203, which has previously been heated to 1100-1200°C, to temperatures between 650 and 850°C [7, 8]. The hexagonal BaTiO3 type (6H; sequence  $(hcc)_2$ ) has a phase breadth of BaFeO<sub>2.67-2.95</sub>, for which the lattice constants decline with decreasing oxygen deficiency [7]. According to neutron diffraction studies of 6H-BaFeO2.79 [8], the majority of oxygen lattice defects are located in the hexagonally packed layers (BaO<sub>2.5</sub> composition), while stoichiometric BaO2,835 is present in the cubically packed layers; tetrahedral coordination could thereby be produced for a part of the iron in the flatly connected double tetrahedrons [8]. On the other hand, the corresponding Ru compound, BaRuO2, can be produced stoichiometrically at even standard pressure; it crystallizes in a rhombohedral 9-layer structure (9R: sequence  $(hhc)_3$  [10]).

\*Author to whom correspondence should be addressed. \*\*Numbers in the margin indicate pagination in the foreign text. Previously in the BaFe<sub>1-x</sub>Ru<sub>x</sub>O<sub>3-y</sub> system, a quaternary oxide which belongs to the 6H type, Ba<sub>3</sub>FeRu<sub>2</sub>O<sub>9</sub> (x = 0.667), could be formed [11]. Further studies showed that this reaction involves a member of an extended 6H phase (x = 0 to 0.75); in addition, a compound with hexagonal 4-layer structure (4H, sequence (hc)<sub>2</sub>) exists for x = 0.9. The phase  $\frac{/367}{1-x^{Ru_x}O_{3-y}}$ relationships and property variations in the BaFe<sub>1-x</sub>Ru<sub>x</sub>O<sub>3-y</sub> series are given.

#### Experimental Part

Initial products were  $BaCO_3$  (p.A.; Merck),  $Fe_2O_3$  (20 m<sup>2</sup>/g of Fe(CO)<sub>5</sub>; BASF), and Ru (99.97%; Heraeus). Sintered alumina, Degussit Al 23, served as crucible material.

Concentrations were fixed at 22.2°C with n-octane as sealing fluid.

To produce radiographs (Cu K $\alpha$ -radiation), Philips Corporation used a recording goniometric counter tube. The IR (infrared) spectra (KBr compacts; 4000-250 cm<sup>-1</sup> range) were recorded with a Beckman spectrograph IR 20A, and the FIR (far infrared) spectra (polyethylene compacts, 650-50 cm<sup>-1</sup>) with a Fourier device from the company Bruker IFS 114c. Raman spectra could not be obtained from the black compounds.

To determine the oxidation level, about 150 mg of the substance under a  $CO_2$  stream in a closed apparatus were exposed to concentrated HCl (p.A.), the resulting  $Cl_2$  was collected in an ice-cooled KI solution, and the formed  $I_2$  was titrated with 0.1 n  $Na_2S_2O_3$  solution with intensity as an indicator. A gravimetric determination of Ba as  $BaSO_4$  was subsequently performed.

## Production and Structure

To make the exclusively black preparations of the BaFe<sub>1-x</sub>Ru<sub>x</sub>O<sub>3-v</sub> system, the mixture of BaCO<sub>3</sub>, Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, and Ru was carefully pulverized in an agate mortar, heated in air inside a corundum crucible, and finely repulverized one or two days later; the reaction process was monitored radiographically. On the Fe-rich side ( $x \leq 0.2$ ), heating at 900-1100°C for two to three days followed by heating at lower temperatures (700-800°C; two to ten days) was shown to be effective for producing the 6H phases<sup>1</sup> of interest, while the materials richer in Ru (x = 0.333 to 0.75) were heated at 800-900°C for a full 6 days and at 1000-1100°C for six to ten days. Experiments for the example where x = 0.667 showed that longer heating at low temperatures (1000°C), as well as briefer heating at higher temperatures (1300°C), does not affect purity, cell dimensions, or oxygen content. However, a preparation richer in Fe (x = 0.45) was similarly homogeneous after heating at 1300°C for three days but showed a greater oxygen deficiency (y = 0.125; average oxidation level +3.75 in comparison to y =0.06 after heating at 1000°C), whereby the lattice constants increased to a =  $5.73_3$  angstroms and c =  $14.1_0$  angstroms.

In the Ru-rich range (x = 0.8 to 1.0), after six to eight repetitions of two-day heating to 1300°C, another compound with 4H structure, whose isolation was achieved in material with x =0.9 after a total of 7 x 2 days at 1300°C, formed beside the member of the 6H phase richest in Ru, BaRuO<sub>3</sub>. On the other hand, counting-tube recordings of preparations with lower Ru levels (x = 0.89; 0.88) always show weak indications of the strongest 6H reflexes, and those of preparations with higher Ru levels (x = 0.92; 0.95) always weakly show the most intensive 9R lines of BaRuO<sub>2</sub>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>No tests were conducted to produce compounds with cubic, tetragonal, or monoclinic perovskite structure by heating longer at lower temperatures.

According to radiographic studies, preparations with x = 0 to 0.75, 0.9, and 1.0 are homogeneous. Lattice constants, analysis data, and concentration values are given in Table I.

For x = 0 to 0.75, compounds in the 6H structure crystallize. The cell dimensions for x = 0 are approximately equal to the listed values of Mori [7] for about the same  $\frac{368}{2}$ 

#### TABLE I

Lattice Constants (angstroms),<sup>a</sup> Average Oxydation Level, Barium Content and Concentration Values in the System  $BaFe_{1-x}Ru_xO_{3-y}$ 

			Average	Ba	(%)	S (g/cm <sup>s</sup> )	
x	а	c	Oxidation Level	meas.	calc.	meas.	calc.
0	5,68,	14,0,	+ 3,55	57,9	57,81*		6.03 •
0,01	5,68	14,0,	+ 3,48	57,6	57,83*	_	6.01 4
0,05	5,69,	14,0,	+3,57	57,7	57,220	5,8,	6.05.
0,1	5,69	14,0,	+3,61	57,0	56,61*		6.11.
0,2	5,70	14,04	+3,75	55,4	55,33*		6.24
0,333	5,72	14,0	+3,85	53,7	53,85*	6,1,	6.35.
0,45	5,72,	14,0,	+3,88	52,6	52,51	6,2,	6.52
0,5	5,73,	14.0,	+ 3,98	51.9	52.06		6.56
0,667(11)	5,72	14.0.	+4,01	50,5	50,62	6.3.	6.77.
0.75	5,72	14,0,	+4,04	50,0	49.92	6.4.	6.86.
0,9	5,73,	9,51,		e	48,72	6,6,	6,91

<sup>a</sup> +0.002 (a); +0.005 (c).

<sup>b</sup> calculated with consideration of experimentally determined oxygen deficiency.

<sup>c</sup> insoluble in mineral acids.

oxidation level. As x increases, a increases at first and then progresses through a flat maximum for x approximately equal to 0.5; however, the c measurements do not change much. The average oxidation level of iron and ruthenium, which must amount to +4.00 for a completely filled oxygen lattice  $(BaFe_{1-x}Ru_xO_3)$ , falls below this value on the Fe-rich

side; i.e., there is an oxygen deficiency. With increasing x, the average oxidation number rises, and consequently the oxygen content increases; with +3.98 for x = 0.5, the limiting value of +4.00, which is maintained up to x = 0.75, is practically reached. Pycnometric densities determined in the 6H region lie in the range of error of the values calculated for 6  $BaFe_{1-x}Ru_xO_{3-y}$  formular units.

The counting-tube recording of x = 0.9 is subject to complete, hexagonal labeling with a =  $5.73_4$  angstroms and c =  $9.51_0$  angstroms (see the labeling in Table II). A 4-layer structure results from the magnitude of c: for 2.38 angstroms the average distance between layers, L = c/4, lies in the normal range (see, for example, [12]). For the configuration of the densely packed barium-oxygen layers, there is only one possibility ((hc)<sub>2</sub>; reaction rate P6<sub>3</sub>/mmc [13]). Thus, for the first time, isotypy is to be assumed for the high temperature modification of the localized 4H type [14] of BaMnO3. With respect to the Fe:Ru proportions, as well as to the oxygen level, there could be no phase breadth, since, on the one hand, the 4H lattice constants determined for the two-phase products lie within the range of error limits for the listed values, and, on the other hand, the thermal treatment (open air quenching from 1300°C to room temperature; oven cooling within one day to 200°C as well as 3-day heating to 800°C and 7-day to 600°C) has no measurable effect. The pycnometric densities are close to the value calculated for 4 formular units.

Pure Ru bonding can acquire no recognizable Fe components. For a =  $5.75_0$  angstroms and c =  $21.6_0$  angstroms, lattice /369 constants defined in the two-phase, Fe-poorer products correspond to the values listed for BaRu0<sub>3</sub> (a = 5.75 angstroms and c = 21.60 angstroms [10]).

#### TABLE II

	104	sin <sup>2</sup> 0 ×			sin <sup>2</sup> ℓ × 10 <sup>4</sup>			
hkl	calc.	meas.	Int•	hkl	calc.	meas.	Int"	
220	2887 a,	2888	m	100	· 241 ā	241		
220	2902 az	2901	m — s	101	307 ā	307	s	
116	3083 a	3082	<b>5</b> 555	102	504 ā	503	st	
110	3099 az	3099	\$555	003	591 ä	590	5555	
A16/00/	3324 a,	3324	m	110	723 ā	722	st	
215/206	3341 az	3341	m s	103	832 ā	832	st	
	3390 a,	. 3391	5	201	1030 ā	1030	\$\$\$	
312	3407 az	3409	55		1050 a,	1050	m s	
	3718 a	3718	m — s	004	1055 a,	1056	5	
313	3737 a,	3735	5	000	1225 a,	1225	st	
117	3936 a1	3937	\$55	202	1231 az	1231	m — st	
224	3937 a,			•••	1290 a	1291	ព	
117/224	3956 a.	3959	\$555	104	1297 a,	1297	m s	
	4046 a.	4046	m – s		1553 α.	1553	m — st	
216	4066 a.	4065	5	203	1561 a.	1561	m	
	4112 a.	4112	2	210	1687 ā	1686	\$222	
402	4132 a.	4132	SS		1771 α.	1771	<b>1</b> 55 <b>5</b>	
					•••••			
314/207	4177 a.	4176	<b>S</b> S	114	1780 a.	1781	5555	
314/207	4198 a.	4198	m		1881 a.	1883	m	
008	4198 a.			105	1890 a.	1891	m s	
008	4219 a	4220	m – s		1947 a.	1947	m	
108	4439 a.	4441	5	212	1956 a.	1956	m s	
403	4440 a.		•		2012 a.	2011	m — s	
108	4461 g	4462	\$5	204	$2022 \alpha_{0}$	2020	L ·	
403	4467 a.				2165 a.	2167	m — st	
405	4768 a.	4766	s.	300	2176 a.	2177	m	
315	4792 a	4791	55		2275 a.	2275	m st	
	4834 0.	4833	s - ss	213	2286 a.	2286	m	
322	4858 m	4857	\$5	115/006	2362 a	2360	8228	
404/217	4899 a.	4898	22	006	2373 g	2374	2222	
404/217	4077 Uj	4070	~					
118	4929 a,	4921	m — s	115	2374 az			
217	4923 α <sub>2</sub>			205/106	2602 a,	2603	r # ]	
404	4924 α <u>2</u>				2615 α <sub>2</sub>	2615	m — s	
118	<b>4</b> 945 α <sub>2</sub>	<b>4</b> 944	5	214	2734 α1	2735	m — s	
<b>4</b> 10	5053 α <sub>1</sub>	5054	<u>m — s</u>		2747 😋	2748	6	
710	5978 α <u>s</u>	5077	5					

X-ray interference of  $BaGe_{0.1}Ru_{0.9}O_3$  (x = 0.9); Counter tube recording with CuK-alpha radiation; Hexagonal: a = 5.734 + 0.002 angstroms; c = 9.510 + 0.005 angstroms

## Vibrational Spectroscopic Research

A differentiation between metal-like, conductive, oxidic solids and semiconductors or insulators can be made with <u>/370</u> vibrational spectroscopic methods, since the former group shows a continuous absorption throughout the IR while the second group shows discrete oscillations [15-20]; as expected, it absorbs throughout the IR [20]. In contrast, the pure Fe-phase,  $6H-BaFeO_{3-y}$ , shows semiconductivity of n-type [4]. As indicated by Diagram 1, the required discrete oscillations for  $6H-BaFeO_{2,775}$  (x = 0) appear in the IR.

Diagram 1 shows the IR spectra of some bonds of the  $BaFe_{1-x}Ru_{x}O_{3-y}$  system. For the Ru-rich phase (x = 0.9), a continuous absorption is observed--analagous to  $BaRuO_{3}^{--}$  indicative in both cases of conductivity similar to that of a metal.

In the 6H range (x = 0 to 0.75), striking differences can be seen as a function of x in the IR spectra: starting with the pure Fe bond, the spectra show clearly separated bands up to x =0.33. The structuring already regresses for x = 0.5; for x =0.667, its presence is only suggested; and for x = 0.75, its disappearance is virtually complete. Thus the transition from a semiconductor (x = 0) to a metal-like conductor (x = 0.75) is shown by the spectra. In comparison, a systematic progression of the band positions with respect to x cannot be established (see Table III).

Moreover, it is noteworthy that no bands appear in the higher frequency range for bonds with oxygen deficiencies (x < 0.5). In the presence of FeO<sub>4</sub> tetrahedrons, which are discussed by Jacobson for 6H-BaFeO<sub>2.79</sub> in the case of an ordered distribution of defects [8], their highest frequency IR-active oscillation would be expected at about 700-800 cm<sup>-1</sup> [23]--similar to that of MO<sub>4</sub> tetrahedrons in II-IV and I-II-V spinels.

A factor group analysis is necessary for the band configuration on the Fe-rich side. Assuming a statistical distribution of Fe and Ru, as well as oxygen and defect  $\frac{/371}{51}$ sites (reaction rate P6<sub>3</sub>/mmc: Ba(1) in 2b, BA(2) in 4f;

# DIAGRAM 1

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IR Spectra



TABLE III: IR Spectra<sup>a</sup>; Band Position (cm<sup>-1</sup>)

x =	0	640sh 660sh	600sh	560st	530st	480st 480sh	440sh 440sh	385st 385st	330sh 320st	275st 285st	215	it,b	140st,b 160st	80sh 90sh
	0,2	660sh	600sh		545st	485sh	440sh	385st	320s t	275sh	230sh	200sh	160st	80sh
	0,333	660sh	610st		52	20st 460	sh	375st	320st	265sh	240st	200sh	150st	<b>8</b> 0sh
	0,5	660sh	600sh	570st	5	25st 460	)sh	390st	320st		240sh,b	200sh	150st	<b>8</b> 0sh

<sup>a</sup> sh = shoulder; st = strong; b = breadth

Fe and Ru in 2a and 4f; 0 and  $\Box$  in 6h and 12k), it offers, for k = 0, the irreducible preparations [24]

$$\int_{tot} = 5A_{1g} + 2A_{2g} + 6B_{1g} + B_{2g} + 6E_{1g} + 8E_{2g} + A_{1u} + 7A_{2u} + 2B_{1u} + 6B_{2u} + 9E_{1u} + 7E_{2u}$$

and, after deduction of Ba translations, as well as the acoustic branch,

$$(A_{1g} + 2B_{1g} + E_{1g} + 2E_{2g} + 2A_{2u} + B_{2u} + 2E_{1u} + E_{2u})$$
$$(B_{1g} + E_{2g} + A_{2u} + E_{1u})$$

the following oscillations within the framework of Fe- and Ru-oxygen octahedrons:

$$\int_{0 \text{ctoh.Skelet.}}^{1} = 4A_{1g} + 2A_{2g} + 3B_{1g} + B_{2g} + 5E_{1g} + 5E_{2g} + A_{1u} + 4A_{2u} + 2B_{1u} + 5B_{2u} + 6E_{1u} + 6E_{2u}$$

Thus 10 IR-active oscillations are expected within the octahedral framework.

Given a lack of couplings, separation of frequencies of the octahedral framework from the barium translations can be undertaken, since the latter are always found as characteristic oscillations in a similar frequency range (100-150 cm<sup>-1</sup> [25]). Spectra of the Fe-rich bonds show a relatively intensive band in this range at approximately 150 cm<sup>-1</sup> next to a weaker shoulder at approximately 90 cm<sup>-1</sup>. For x = 0.1 to 0.333, two further, distinctly separated band groups (range 180-410 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 430-660 cm<sup>-1</sup>) are adjoined here, and these could be coordinated with the ranges of the IR-active, asymmetric deforming and stretching vibrations. Accordingly, nine to ten of the ten oscillations predicted by the factor group analysis would be

observable (Table III). Above all, the question remains whether the intensive band at approximately 150 cm<sup>-1</sup> actually corresponds to a pure translation of barium. The observed structuring in the low-frequency region also could represent the result of couplings between translations and energy-poor framework vibrations of the same type. If this is the case, an increase of couplings with decreasing x may be inferred from the separation around approximately 180 cm<sup>-1</sup> which becomes less and less distinct with increasing Fe content ( $x \le 0.33$ ).

## Discussion

Among the applied reaction conditions in the  $BaFe_{1-x}Ru_xO_{3-y}$  system, there are three hexagonal perovskite stack variants of differing sequence, each separated from the others by two-phase regions:

х	=	0 to	0.75:	6H;	sequenc	ce (hcc) <sub>2</sub> ;
					33.3% ł	-bonding,
x	=	0.9:		4H;	sequenc	ce (hc) <sub>2</sub> ;
					50% h-b	onding,
х	=	1.0:		9R;	sequenc	ce (hhc) <sub>3</sub> ;
					66.7% ł	-bonding.

With rising Ru levels, the proportion of h-packed layers per sequence increases. In the same direction, the average layer separation L increases from about 2.35 angstroms (6H) through 2.38 angstroms (4H) to 2.40 angstroms (9R). The increase of L results from the fact that each h-stacking implies face-coupled linkage of the octahedrons, which leads to a shorter separation between the central metal ions in comparison to corner-coupled linkage (for c-stacking). The cations attempt to avoid this electrostatically unfavorable configuration (3rd Pauling rule) by moving away from the octahedral centers, thus increasing the separation distance, so that a growing h-proportion is

accompanied by lattice extension. Even systems with only one transition metal (e.g.  $BaMnO_{3-7}$  [26] and  $Ba_{1-x}Sr_xMnO_{3-y}$  [27]) show a similar process.

Since the stacking sequences with large h-proportions first appear in the BaFe<sub>1-x</sub>Ru<sub>x</sub>O<sub>3-v</sub> system with high Ru levels, in /372which case a metal-like conductivity is already present, there is the impression that the collective, electrostatically unfavorable h-bonding is additionally stabilized by electron delocalization. Apparently only precious metal electrons can participate in the metal-like conductivity--as in many other polynary oxides with precious metal--and 3d ions [19]. In contrast, the pure Fe-phase of 6H-type belongs to the semiconductors. Semiconductivity is maintained during insertion of smaller Ru proportions up to x = approximately 0.333. An oxygen deficiency is always present, and consequently the possibility of n-conductivity is given. After insertion of about 50% Ru, the disappearance of the oxygen deficiency is practically complete. The observable changes in the IR spectra opposite x = 0.333 can be explained by the appearance of a second, metal-like conductivity mechanism which predominates over the first type, i.e., semiconductivity, and whose proportion rises strongly to x = 0.75. With this composition, modification of the band structure within the 6H phase corresponding to x = approximately 0.5 appears to be finished; further insertion of ruthenium is avoided upon formation of a new structure (4H). The breakdown of the 6H structure for x <0.75 could be explained by the already large number of conducting electrons supplied by the ruthenium which is no longer suitable for the stacking sequence with only 33.3% h-coupling. A relationship between the formed crystal structure and the available number of conducting electrons would consequently be expected. However, only further research can offer proof of this.

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